


From: [Althea Foster](#)
To: [Susan Webster](#); [Chris Petersen](#)
Cc: [Matthew Loesel](#); [John Martin](#); [R6 DWH REOC PSC@EPA](#)
Subject: Re: Fw: SMS Text Project - Summary & Update
Date: 05/29/2010 10:49 AM

Susan/Chris,
If you are ok with the plan as proposed by Matt below we will "make it so".

Althea

Althea C. Foster (6SF-PR)
On-Scene Coordinator
USEPA Region 6

▼ [Re: Fw: SMS Text Project - Summary & Update](#)

Re: Fw: SMS Text Project - Summary & Update 

Matthew Loesel to: Althea Foster

05/29/2010
10:37 AM

Cc: John Martin, Susan Webster, R6 DWH REOC PSC

Here is my plan (thoughts) as to how this would work. Each morning after a review of the previous night's Water Quality table by the EU, we could issue a message on those findings. Then after 1 pm, once we have the updated monitoring data from the air monitoring in Venice, Chalmette and Grand Isle and it has been reviewed by EU we will send a message on the air monitoring. In addition, as final sample analysis is released by HQ, that information could be released. Other updates can be made from TAGA and/or ASPECT as needed, but as mentioned in the emails, we do not want this to be overload....

Matthew Loesel
RCRA Strategic Planning and Information Management
RCRA Training Coordinator
US EPA, Region 6
(214) 665-8544

▼ [Fw: SMS Text Project - Summary & Update](#)

Fw: SMS Text Project - Summary & Update

Althea Foster to: Matthew Loesel

05/29/2010
09:48 AM

Cc: John Martin, Susan Webster

Matt,
As we discussed these messages can be created by Plans from the scribe data, then run through the R6 EU for blessing. I would anticipate we would need at least one Air (monitoring, sampling or TAGA) message per day and one water (?monitoring? or sampling) message per day. Keep in mind that sample analytical results can only be released through HQ. We can turn the HQ release results into an SMS message as soon as it is released.

Let me know today if there would be any issues with getting this done. I will let David know what our capability is once we have nailed down.

Althea

Althea C. Foster (6SF-PR)
On-Scene Coordinator
USEPA Region 6

----- Forwarded by Althea Foster/R6/USEPA/US on 05/29/2010 09:38 AM -----

Fw: SMS Text Project - Summary & Update

David Gray to: Althea Foster

05/29/2010
08:18 AM

Cc: Jones.Nancy, Steve Mason

Althea,

Can the EU help me to get information out about our sampling results via our SMS service? I am not hearing much information to release on air or water data. I am trying to figure out a better way to get this information so I can send it out. Ideally - we'd have something to say every day. Below is information about the service and examples of

messages.

We can do them. We just need the information and data.

David

----- Forwarded by David Gray/R6/USEPA/US on 05/29/2010 08:10 AM -----

SMS Text Project - Summary & Update

David Gray to: Dale Perry

05/21/2010
08:40 AM

Cc:

Area Command has approved the SMS text project for deployment. The process will be managed by the JIC and include other agencies besides EPA. Basically, individuals can voluntarily sign up for information alerts to their cell phones. They send specific 'language' to a 5 digit number and are automatically signed up for alerts either by topic or state boundary. Is can sign up for more than one list. At any point - individuals can cancel their subscription by sending 'Stop Gulf' to be removed from the distribution list.

Below are the categories that the JIC will support. Each Agency can provide 140 character SMS text messages through their JIC contact for distribution. Everyone is encouraged to use this tool wisely as cost is passed on to the consumer - and we don't want consumer 'burn-out' to occur from flooding cell phones.

For EPA - our main two categories are Air and Water. These lists provide us the opportunity to send information directly to individuals. (See examples from my earlier email). Dale and I will work up a process for getting our 'best' data update out on the SMS texting system each day. Ideally - we will take the daily data report and refine a statement like the earlier examples. After Dale and I get the system operational and running - I suggest we turn it over to the EPA PIO team in Robert to run this process.

The JIC will be announcing this service soon (possibly today). Our goal will be to support them by both echoing the announcement but also spreading the word among NGOs so the sign-up lists grow quickly. The JIC will also have instructions on the www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com Web site which we can link or copy on www.epa.gov/bpspill.

The JIC will manage the process, database, and outputs through the PIER system. They will also monitor feedback and improve/modify the SMS texting system over time.

Topic Based:

Air@gulf to 84469
Water@gulf to 84469
Beach@gulf to 84469
Fishing@gulf to 84469
News@gulf to 84469

Location based:

AL@gulf to 84469
MS@gulf to 84469
FL@gulf to 84469
LA@gulf to 84469

▼ Re: SMS examples

▼ David Gray---05/19/2010 07:38:10 AM---Dale, Here are some language examples that I hope we can generate for SMS texting alerts. These are

From: David Gray/R6/USEPA/US
To: Dale Perry/DC/USEPA/US@EPA,
Date: 05/19/2010 07:38 AM
Subject: SMS examples

Dale,

Here are some language examples that I hope we can generate for SMS texting alerts. These are not real. They reflect the ideal information that would be included in the message - that is:

- 1) chemical or substance name - if detected
- 2) sampling period
- 3) sampling location
- 4) identifier and date

5/10 EPA Air Data: No elevated levels of chemicals were measured at

any of the 9 stationery air monitoring stations on the Gulf on 5/9.

5/10 EPA Air Data: Mobile lab measured slightly elevated levels of benzene off Hwy 33 in Venice on 5/9.

5/10 EPA Air Data: Mobile lab investigated odor complaints in Duloc. No elevated levels of chemicals were discovered.

5/10 EPA Air Data: Aspect Airplane found no elevated levels of chemicals from offshore controlled burn of oil on 5/8.

5/10 EPA Water Data: Moderate concentrations of oil and dispersant have been identified in 3 water samples collected near Venice on 5/6.

5/10 EPA Sediment Data: Moderate levels of oil measured in 13 sediment samples taken 0.5 miles offshore in Biloxi, MS on 5/4. No dispersants

David